



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangerter

Governor

Dee C. Hansen

Executive Director

Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.

Division Director

355 West North Temple

3 Triad Center, Suite 350

Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

801-538-5340

## INSPECTION REPORT

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: Aug. 29, 1991  
11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Utah Fuel Company  
Business Address: P. O. Box 719, Helper, UT 84526 Ph: 637-7925  
Mine Name: Skyline Mine Permit Number: ACT/007/005  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground ☒ Surface ☐ Other ☐  
County: Carbon Company Official(s): Keith Zobell  
State Officials(s): Rick Summers  
Federal Official(s): None  
Partial: ☒ X Complete ☐ Date of last Inspection: July 31, 1991  
Weather Conditions: Fair  
Acreage: Permitted 4,834 Disturbed 62.5 Regraded ☐ Seeded ☐  
Bonded 62.5 Enforcement Action: None

## COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

	YES	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
1. PERMITS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE & SPOIL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL PROCESSING WASTE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS				
a. CONSTRUCTION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. SURFACING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. MAINTENANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES				
UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

DATE OF INSPECTION: 08/29/91

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

### **4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:**

In response to a citizen's complaint to the Division of Water Resources, Mr. Bill Warmack of the Price District office, regarding water pollution from the Skyline Mine, Bill Malencik of the Division accompanied Mr. Warmack on a site tour on Monday August 19, 1991. The concern centered around visible foams discharging from the Eccles Creek bypass culvert. Mr. Malencik observed the foam and took a series of samples to attempt to identify the problem. Samples were taken (with splits for the operator) at six locations for acidity, iron (total), nitrite, oil and grease, pH, phosphate (total), sodium, TDS, TSS, and sulfates. MBAS was also to be analyzed, but the laboratory was not equipped to perform the analysis. Exceedance of the holding time for this parameter prevented submitting the sample to another lab for analysis. The parameter list and sampling locations were developed in consultation with myself via phone on August 19, 1991. Results of those samples were received by the Division on September 9, 1991. Mr. Malencik is drafting a memo documenting the site tour and events.

#### **a. STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS**

On August 2, 1991 a significant storm passed the Eccles Creek drainage. The precipitation gage at the main mine site recorded 0.76" of precipitation in a 20 minute period. Evidence of the flows generated by the storm was observed in Eccles Creek. It was evident that the flow exceeded the normal bankfull stage by approximately 1 foot in several places. No measurements were taken, however, Valley Camp Coal Co. has submitted information to the Division demonstrating this event exceeded the predicted flow from the 10 yr. - 6 hr. event. My records indicate that this event is equivalent to the 100 yr. - 30 minute event (Clear Creek gage data). Drainage structures at the minesite were all intact and no failures were noted. The upper coal stockpile has been depleted and provided access for a tour of the inlet structure for the middle branch drainage bypass. The inlet was intact with no erosion noted in the channel or stilling basin. Willows have been recently planted in the stilling basin/compound channel area.

## INSPECTION REPORT

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

DATE OF INSPECTION: 08/29/91

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

### **4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE (Cont'd):**

#### **c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS**

The operator has completed cleaning the sedimentation pond at the loadout site. The proposed spillway modification currently under review by our office was field toured to facilitate review. The operator proposes to construct an open channel emergency spillway in order to comply with R614-301-742.223.

#### **f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

Results of the samples collected on August 19, 1991 were received by the Division on September 9, 1991. The samples were analyzed by CTE labs in Huntington, Utah. The results are attached to this inspection report. Preliminary review of the samples indicate exceedance of the limitations for TDS, sulfates and discharge of visible foams set forth in NPDES permit #UT-0023540 (see attached).

However, further review of the permit conditions (esp. Part C.2.) indicates those limitations are not applicable if an increase in volume of the discharge is caused by any amount of precipitation (or snowmelt runoff). The precipitation gage at the Skyline mine indicates that 0.07" of rain occurred in the previous 24 hr. period prior to the Division's sampling (pers. comm. w/ Mr. Zobel, 9/10/91). The runoff model used in the design of the sedimentation pond (SCS curve number) defines the threshold precipitation above which runoff will occur as 0.22" for the pad area. Therefore, from the pad, no increase in volume of discharge would be expected from 0.07" of precipitation. However, to the letter of the language, any amount of direct precipitation on the pond could be construed as an increase of volume. The alternative limitation clause (Part C.2.) also states that the burden of proof is on the operator to demonstrate that an increase in volume or discharge is the result of precipitation in the previous 24 hr. period. If the precipitation event is less than the 10 yr. - 24 hr. event, then the applicable limitations are set for settable solids and pH only. This alternate limitation is defined in section C.2. of the aforementioned permit. It is also consistent with 40 CFR Part 434.63 (a)(2).

# INSPECTION REPORT

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

DATE OF INSPECTION: 08/29/91

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS (Cont'd)

During a phone conversation with Mr. Steve McNeal of the BWPC on September 10, 1991, he was unable to provide a determination if this interpretation of the C.2. clause is correct. He suggested this issue may need to be submitted to the Bureau of Water Pollution Control in writing for a formal interpretation of the alternative limitation clause. It should also be noted that the Division's sample results are similar to the exceedances in TDS and sulfates limitations reported regularly to the Bureau of Water Pollution Control by the operator.

9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES

As a result of the above mentioned complaint, Ken Phippin of the Department of Wildlife Resources, Price Regional Office was contacted. His staff conducted a rudimentary fish survey on Eccles creek on August 20, 1991 to determine if significant environmental harm to the stream had occurred. He reported to myself via telephone that they had observed fish at the sampling locations. A formal survey was conducted on August 22, 1991 which also included collection of macroinvertebrate samples. Final results of that survey are not yet available, yet he reported that the fish and invertebrate populations appeared to be unaffected at this time.

11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION

The operator has completed removal of the open coal storage pile in the south branch of Eccles Creek. The highway outslope has been dressed and topsoil has been placed to ready the site for hydroseeding. Topsoil for the area was obtained from a Mr. Neal Franson, in the Scofield area. Mr. Zobel described the source as commercial.

18. SUPPORT FACILITIES  
UTILITY INSTALLATIONS

The operator is nearing completion of the new Questar gas pipeline installation. Portions of the pipeline installation were observed and the reclamation work to date appears to be satisfactory. Particularly good work was done for the stream crossing at upper Huntington Creek.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: PFO, Brian Smith-AFO, Keith Zobel, Coastal States

Given to: D. Haddock, J. Helfrich-DOGM

Inspectors Signature & Number:  # 15 Date: 9/11/91



# COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

GENERAL OFFICES: 1919 SOUTH HIGHLAND AVE., SUITE 210-B, LOMBARD, ILLINOIS 60148 • (708) 953-9300

SINCE 1908

Member of the SGS Group (Société Générale de Surveillance)

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1020, HUNTINGTON, UT 84528  
TELEPHONE: (801) 653-2311  
FAX: (801) 653-2479

September 5, 1991

Job No.: 59 11444

Sample ID: DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Date Rec'd: August 19, 1991

Date Sampled: August 19, 1991

Sampled By: DOGM

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING  
3 TRAIID CENTER  
SUITE 350  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84180

NPDES 001  
DOGM Split W/Skyline  
Rec'd 1600 hr.  
Sampled 1140 hr.

RECEIVED

SEP 09 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

## WATER ANALYSIS

Acidity	34	mg/l CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Phosphorus, Total	0.01<	mg/l
08-20-91			08-26-91		
Iron	0.12	mg/l	Sodium	153.40	mg/l
08-27-91			08-27-91		
Nitrogen, Nitrate	0.16	mg/l	Solids, Dissolved	1620.0	mg/l
08-20-91			08-21-91		
Oil and Grease	1.0<	mg/l	Solids, Suspended	33.0	mg/l
08-22-91			08-21-91		
pH	7.60	Units	Sulfate	800.0	mg/l
08-19-91			08-29-91		

ANALYST: UU UU

Respectfully submitted,  
COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

UU UU  
Manager, Huntington Laboratory

OVER 40 BRANCH LABORATORIES STRATEGICALLY LOCATED IN PRINCIPAL COAL MINING AREAS, TIDEWATER AND GREAT LAKES PORTS, AND RIVER LOADING FACILITIES

F-465  
Original Watermarked For Your Protection

TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON REVERSE



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P.O. BOX 1020, HUNTINGTON, UT 84528  
TELEPHONE: (801) 653-2311  
FAX: (801) 653-2479

September 5, 1991

Job No.: 59 11447

Sample ID: DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Date Rec'd: August 19, 1991

Date Sampled: August 19, 1991

Sampled By: DOGM

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING  
3 TRAD CENTER  
SUITE 350  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84180

#3 Discharge  
DOGM Split W/Skyline  
Rec'd 1600 hr.  
Sampled 1405 hr.

RECEIVED

SEP 09 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

## WATER ANALYSIS

Acidity	8	mg/l CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Phosphorus, Total	0.01<	mg/l
08-20-91			08-26-91		
Iron	1.98	mg/l	Sodium	231.20	mg/l
08-27-91			08-27-91		
Nitrogen, Nitrate	0.01<	mg/l	Solids, Dissolved	1648.0	mg/l
08-20-91			08-21-91		
Oil and Grease	1.0<	mg/l	Solids, Suspended	62.0	mg/l
08-22-91			08-21-91		
pH	7.80	Units	Sulfate	800.0	mg/l
08-19-91			08-29-91		

ANALYST: W U

Respectfully submitted,  
COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

W U  
Manager, Huntington Laboratory

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P.O. BOX 1020, HUNTINGTON, UT 84528  
TELEPHONE: (801) 653-2311  
FAX: (801) 653-2479

September 5, 1991

Job No.: 59 11446

Sample ID: DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Date Rec'd: August 19, 1991

Date Sampled: August 19, 1991

Sampled By: DOGM

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING  
3 TRAD CENTER  
SUITE 350  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84180

100 Trash Rade  
Middle J.K. Ecclers  
DOGM Split W/Skyline  
Rec'd 1600 hr.  
Sampled 1120 hr.



SEP 09 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

## WATER ANALYSIS

Acidity	9	mg/l CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Phosphorus, Total	0.01<	mg/l
08-20-91			08-26-91		
Iron	0.10	mg/l	Sodium	4.64	mg/l
08-27-91			08-27-91		
Nitrogen, Nitrate	0.01<	mg/l	Solids, Dissolved	284.0	mg/l
08-20-91			08-21-91		
Oil and Grease	1.0<	mg/l	Solids, Suspended	3.0	mg/l
08-22-91			08-21-91		
pH	8.00	Units	Sulfate	70.0	mg/l
08-19-91			08-29-91		

ANALYST:     

Respectfully submitted,  
COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

Manager, Huntington Laboratory

OVER 40 BRANCH LABORATORIES STRATEGICALLY LOCATED IN PRINCIPAL COAL MINING AREAS, TIDEWATER AND GREAT LAKES PORTS, AND RIVER LOADING FACILITIES

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TELEPHONE: (801) 653-2311  
FAX: (801) 653-2479

September 5, 1991

Job No.: 59 11445

Sample ID: DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Date Rec'd: August 19, 1991

Date Sampled: August 19, 1991

Sampled By: DOGM

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING  
3 TRAD CENTER  
SUITE 350  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84180

Eccles Above South Fork  
DOGM Split W/Skyline  
Rec'd 1600 hr.  
Sampled 1205 hr.

RECEIVED

SEP 09 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

## WATER ANALYSIS

Acidity	18	mg/l CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Phosphorus, Total	0.01<	mg/l
08-20-91					
Iron	0.10	mg/l	Sodium	144.20	mg/l
08-27-91			08-27-91		
Nitrogen, Nitrate	0.14	mg/l	Solids, Dissolved	1252.0	mg/l
08-20-91			08-21-91		
Oil and Grease	1.0<	mg/l	Solids, Suspended	32.0	mg/l
08-22-91			08-21-91		
pH	7.90	Units	Sulfate	550.0	mg/l
08-19-91			08-29-91		

ANALYST:     

Respectfully submitted,  
COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

Manager, Huntington Laboratory

OVER 40 BRANCH LABORATORIES STRATEGICALLY LOCATED IN PRINCIPAL COAL MINING AREAS, TIDEWATER AND GREAT LAKES PORTS, AND RIVER LOADING FACILITIES





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TELEPHONE: (801) 653-2311  
FAX: (801) 653-2479

September 5, 1991

Job No.: 59 11442

Sample ID: DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Date Rec'd: August 19, 1991

Date Sampled: August 19, 1991

Sampled By: DOGM

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING  
3 TRAUD CENTER  
SUITE 350  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84180

Skyline Mine  
Culvert Outfall  
DOGM Split W/Skyline  
Rec'd 1600 hr.  
Sampled 1150 hr.

RECEIVED

SEP 09 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

## WATER ANALYSIS

Acidity	1<	mg/l CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Phosphorus, Total	0.12	mg/l
08-20-91			08-26-91		
Iron	0.17	mg/l	Sodium	152.90	mg/l
08-27-91			08-27-91		
Nitrogen, Nitrate	0.15	mg/l	Solids, Dissolved	1261.0	mg/l
08-20-91			08-21-91		
Oil and Grease	1.0<	mg/l	Solids, Suspended	14.0	mg/l
08-22-91			08-21-91		
pH	7.20	Units	Sulfate	600.0	mg/l
08-19-91			08-29-91		

ANALYST: W W

Respectfully submitted,  
COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

W W  
Manager, Huntington Laboratory

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TELEPHONE: (801) 653-2311  
FAX: (801) 653-2479

September 5, 1991

Job No.: 59 11443

Sample ID: DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Date Rec'd: August 19, 1991

Date Sampled: August 19, 1991

Sampled By: DOGM

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING  
3 TRAD CENTER  
SUITE 350  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84180

Skyline Mine  
#1 Discharge  
DOGM Split W/Skyline  
Rec'd 1600 hr.  
Sampled 1405 hr.

RECEIVED

SEP 09 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

## WATER ANALYSIS

Acidity	1<	mg/l CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Phosphorus, Total	0.17	mg/l
08-20-91			08-26-91		
Iron	0.19	mg/l	Sodium	37.49	mg/l
08-27-91			08-27-91		
Nitrogen, Nitrate	0.14	mg/l	Solids, Dissolved	1321.0	mg/l
08-20-91			08-21-91		
Oil and Grease	1.0<	mg/l	Solids, Suspended	35.0	mg/l
08-22-91			08-21-91		
pH	7.50	Units	Sulfate	800.0	mg/l
08-19-91			08-29-91		

ANALYST: WU

Respectfully submitted,  
COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

WU  
Manager, Huntington Laboratory

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